

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 03832 171706Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-03 AF-10 ARA-06
EUR-12 USIE-00 SSO-00 IOE-00 INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05
NSCE-00 SP-02 /103 W
-----171720Z 042955 /47

O P 171636Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7436
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3832

SIL FOR DALE GOOD

IO FOR PALMER

PASS LABOR FOR ILAB

PASS COMMERCE FOR UPTON

RABAT FOR HOROWITZ

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, PLAB
SUBJ: HIGH ILO OFFICIAL TO BRIEF ASEAN LABOR MINISTERS

REF: A. STATE 102699, B. GENEVA 3824

1. BERNARD FORTIN, CHEF DE CABINET OF THE INTERNATIONAL
LABOR ORGANIZATION AND DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD'S
RIGHT HAND MAN, WILL BRIEF THE ASEAN LABOR MINISTERS
NEXT WEEK ON POLITICAL ISSUES COMING UP IN JUNE AT
THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC). MEETING
REPORTEDLY WILL TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE BANGKOK. FORTIN
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SAID ASEAN MINISTERS HAD ASKED BLANCHARD FOR "UP TO
DATE BRIEFING" ON POLITICAL ISSUES BUT BECAUSE ILO
GOVERNING BODY IS IN SESSION NEXT WEEK, BLANCHARD
IS SENDING HIM AS HIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. FORTIN
ARRIVES IN BANGKOK MAY 20, IAND WILL STAY AT ORIENTAL
HOTEL.

2 FOR DEPT: FORTIN WAS RATHER UPTIGHT WHEN WE TALKED TO HIM, PARTLY BECAUSE OF FEAR (SO FAR UNJUSTIFIED) THAT ARABS MIGHT INTRODUCE ANTI-ISRAEL RESOLUTION AT ILC, AND PARTLY BECAUSE OF ARAB CONTENTIONS THAT G-77 WOULD SOLIDLY OPPOSE PROPOSED CHANGES IN ARTICLE 17 OF ILC STANDING ORDERS. WE TOLD HIM OUR IMPRESSION FROM REPORTS OF HOROWITZ JOURNEYS WAS DIFFERENT AND MOST RECENT SOUNDINGS IN AFRICA BY AMB YOUNG AND ASST SECY MAYNES ALSO SUGGESTED GAME WAS FAR FROM LOST. INSTRUCTIONS ON ANY FURTHER BRIEFING FOR FORTIN SHOULD BE SENT TO US ASAP.

3. FOR BANGKOK: FORTIN IS VERY BRIGHT FRENCHMAN, CAREER OFFICIAL IN ILO, AND SPEAKS FLUENT ENGLISH. THE EASIEST RAPPORT WITH FORTIN IS THROUGH HIS INTEREST IN MUSIC (HE IS ACCOMPLISHED AMATEUR PIANIST) AND HE MAY BE INTERESTED IN THAI MUSIC. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA03832
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770175-0241
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770550/aaaabqvp.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b631be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 102699, 77 GENEVA 3824
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2495129
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HIGH ILO OFFICIAL TO BRIEF ASEAN LABOR MINISTERS
TAGS: ELAB, ILO, (FORTIN, BERNARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b631be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009